

NEWS RELEASE

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West Valley City Residents Fight Crime During Neighborhood Nights

WEST VALLEY CITY – Throughout August, West Valley City will host several FREE events as part of the City's August Neighborhood Nights program, a series of events for residents to learn more about what they can do in their neighborhoods to combat drug and criminal activity. In conjunction with August Neighborhood Nights, the City will participate in National Night Out Against Crime, a nationwide event that the City has been part of since the program was launched 26 years ago. For the past five years, West Valley City has been recognized as a National leader by the National Association of Town Watch for its participation in National Night Out.

"This is a great opportunity for the entire family to learn more about fighting crime in a fun atmosphere," said Mayor Dennis J. Nordfelt. "West Valley City is committed to helping our residents be safe, not only at home, but on the streets, at school, while shopping... everywhere they go."

Neighborhood Nights Schedule of Events:

August Neighborhood Nights Kick Off Event and Safety Fair Monday, August 3, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

West Valley City will host the August Neighborhood Nights kick-off event and Safety Fair at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center, 1355 West 3100 South. The kick-off event will include safety information displays, emergency vehicles, Police K-9 demonstration, UHP helicopter, entertainment, McGruff the Crime Dog, Grizzbee, free food, and much more! Following the kick-off event, the Utah Cultural Celebration invites everyone to stay and enjoy a FREE concert in the Great Hall from 8:00 – 9:30 p.m. This concert is part of the 2009 WorldStage! Concert Series, and will feature the music, comedy, dancing and singing impressions of Jason Hewlett.

National Night Out Against Crime Tuesday, August 4

Thirty West Valley City neighborhoods will participate in the 26th annual National Night Out Against Crime. Residents have planned street parties throughout the City, which will include activities such as a petting zoo, carnivals, spaghetti dinner, potluck dinners, garden produce exchanges, music, games, parades, and more. City Council, Police, Fire, and other members of City staff will attend as many events as possible. McGruff the Crime Dog will make a surprise visit to four events with the Police Mobile Command Center.

Police Safety Fair

Friday, August 7, 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 8, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The West Valley City Police Department will be hosting their annual Police Safety Fair at Valley Fair Mall, 3601 South Constitution Boulevard. Displays will include information from Police divisions, including: Investigations, Traffic, SWAT, Forensics, DARE, Narcotics, K-9, and Community Services. There will be Police K-9 demonstrations both days at 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. West Valley City Fire, Neighborhood Watch, Vial of Life, and Salt Lake County Safe Kids Coalition will also have displays.

Community Crime Prevention Seminar Series Monday, August 10, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

As part of a yearlong FREE crime prevention education series, August will focus on ID Theft and Senior Fraud. The presentation will be made by AAA Fair Credit Foundation.

Family Safety Fair

Thursday, August 27, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

The West Valley City Family Fitness Center, 5415 West 3100 South, will be hosting a FREE Family Safety Fair. This year's safety fair will include a climbing wall speed competition, water and swimming pool safety demonstrations, and safety information displays. McGruff the Crime Dog will also be present handing out Child Identification Kits to families. The DEA will also be present with their parade truck for kids to look at.

For more information about West Valley City's August Neighborhood Nights and National Night Out Against Crime, contact Craig Thomas, Neighborhood Services Manager, call (801) 963-3285, email neighborhoods@wvc-ut.gov or visit www.wvc-ut.gov/nno.